



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/777,907	02/12/2004	Kulvir Singh Bhogal	AUS920030861US1	6078
45502	7590	06/08/2006	EXAMINER	
DILLON & YUDELL LLP 8911 N. CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY., SUITE 2110 AUSTIN, TX 78759			FIGUEROA, FELIX O	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 06/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/777,907	BHOGAL, KULVIR SINGH
	Examiner Felix O. Figueroa	Art Unit 2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 April 2006.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,3-7 and 9-16 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1,3-7 and 9-16 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 25 April 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-16 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1 line 15, "a device" should be changed to --the another electronic device--.

In claim 6 line 3-5, "an embedded communication connector comprising: a communication connector structure, comprising" appears to have some redundancy.

In claim 12 line 2, "the user" should be --a user--.

In claim 15 line 7, "the personal electronic device" lacks antecedent basis. In line 14, "axes" should be --axis--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3-7 and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Huang (US 6,786,743).

Huang discloses a communication connector structure embedded within a personal electronic device, comprising: a communication port (27) for electronically

coupling the personal electronic device to another electronic device (not shown) to enable transfers of communication between the personal electronic device and the another electronic device; and a rigid first arm (25) structure with a first end having a hinge mechanism (at 24) fixedly attached thereto that is adapted for attachment to the personal electronic device (2) and a second end having a swivel point (at 256); a rigid second arm structure (26) attached between the communication port and the first arm structure, wherein the communication port is attached to one end of the second arm structure and the other end of the second arm structure is rotatably connected to the swivel point on the second end of the first arm structure; wherein the communication connector structure is rotatably mounted to the personal electronic device, and has electrical connections from the personal electronic device to the communication port that provide communication between the another electronic device connected to the communication port and the personal electronic device attached to the hinge mechanism.

Regarding claim 3, Huang discloses the second arm structure swiveling about an axis running through the center of the longest dimension of the first arm structure (see Figs.9&11).

Regarding claims 4 and 5, Huang discloses that the communication port is a USB port or a FIREWIRE port (col.2 line 65 to col.3 line 1).

Regarding claim 6, Huang discloses a personal electronic device comprising: an external body (2) an embedded communication connector (see Fig.8), comprising: a communication connector structure (24-27) comprising: a communication port (27); and

a rigid first arm (25) structure attached to the communication port, wherein the first arm structure has a hinge mechanism (at 24) fixedly attached thereto and attached to the body such that the communication connector structure is rotatably mounted to the personal electronic device, and having electrical connections to the communication port that provide communication between a device connected to the communication port and the personal electronic device attached to the hinge mechanism; an inset region (see Fig.8) within the body, inset from the surface of the body, adapted to permit the communication connector structure to occupy the space within the inset region, and wherein the hinge mechanism is positioned on the rigid first arm structure and attached to the body such that the communication connector structure occupies the inset region when rotated in a first position (Fig.8) and extends outside the inset region when rotated in a second position (Fig.9).

Regarding claim 7, Huang discloses the communication connector structure being rotatably mounted to the personal electronic device by the hinge mechanism such that the communication connector structure is in a embedded position when occupying the inset region of the personal electronic device, and being in an operational position for connection with a device when the communication connector structure is rotated about a hinged point in the hinge mechanism such that the communication connector structure is moved from the embedded position and the communication port is moved outside the inset region into a position for mating with another device.

Regarding claim 8, Huang discloses a rigid second arm structure (26) attached between the communication port and the first arm structure, wherein the communication

port is attached to one end of the second arm structure and the first arm structure is rotatably connected to another end of the second arm structure, wherein the second arm structure rotates about an axis running through the center of the longest dimension of the first arm.

Regarding claim 12, Huang discloses the personal electronic device being a portable device adapted to be carried by a user of the personal electronic device.

Regarding claims 13 and 14, Huang discloses that the communication port is a USB port or a FIREWIRE port (col.2 line 65 to col.3 line 1).

Regarding claim 15, Huang discloses a system comprising: a fully-operable electronic device (at 2); and a communication connector (24-27) directly attached via a hinge mechanism (at 24) to the electronic device and which enables the electronic device to be communicatively coupled to another separate device (not shown), the communication connector comprising: a rigid first arm structure (25) with a first end having the hinge mechanism fixedly attached thereto that is adapted for direct attachment to the personal [fully-operable] electronic device and a second end (at 256) having a swivel point; a communication port (27) for electronically coupling the electronic device to the another separate device to enable transfers of communication between the electronic device and the another separate device; and a rigid second arm structure (26) attached at one end to the communication port and at the next end to the swivel point of the first arm structure via a swivel connector, whereby the second arm structure may be swiveled around an axis running along the first arm structure.

Regarding claim 16, Huang discloses the communication connector being rotatably mounted to the electronic device via the hinge mechanism, and further comprising: electrical connections (not shown) running from the electronic device to the communication port to enable the communicative coupling of the electronic device to another device connected to the communication port.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang.

Huang discloses substantially the claim invention except for the specific type of personal electronic device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the connector structure of Huang in a number of known devices, such as PDA's, cellular phones, and notebook computers, in order to provide multiple connecting orientations and a secured space when the port is not in use.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed April 25, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to Applicant's arguments that Huang does not disclose "the rigid second arm structure positioned on a swivel point", please note that the rigid second arm (26) of Huang is positioned at a swivel point (at 256, see Figs.7-12).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Felix O. Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-2003. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 10:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 Ext. 33. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Felix O. Figueroa
Art Unit 2833